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FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2646
INFO RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 0723
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 0475
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0586
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 9394
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 1142
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 9954
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 1545
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 1595
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 1425

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 001547

SIPDIS
STATE FOR PRM/ECA - AMY WENDT AND NORMAN HASTINGS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/15/2018
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PREF](#) [PHUM](#) [AF](#) [PK](#) [IR](#) [GM](#)
SUBJECT: GERMANY SUPPORTS U.S. GOALS FOR NOVEMBER 19 AFGHAN

REFUGEE CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 118597

Classified By: POLITICAL MINISTER COUNSELOR JEFF RATHKE. REASONS: 1.4 (B) AND (D).

11. (SBU) Post delivered ref A talking points regarding the November 19 international conference on Afghan refugees in Kabul to MFA Office Director for Afghanistan Affairs Director Ruediger Koenig on November 14. Koenig noted that Germany took the conference very seriously, although nobody from Berlin would be attending. He said that Germany will be represented by its ambassador to Kabul, Werner Lauk. Koenig stressed that Lauk had just been back in Berlin the previous week for consultations and that the refugee conference had been one of the main issues under discussion.

12. (SBU) Koenig agreed that it was important to get Pakistan and Iran to publicly commit to lengthen the time frame for refugee returns to correspond to that of the Afghan National Development Strategy (ANDS). He shared the impression that the Pakistanis were already inclined to do this, but that Iran might be more difficult. He said Germany supported the Afghan goals and priorities in the ANDS, but that it was important for the Afghans to have ownership of the refugee returns process and to follow through on their commitments.
TIMKEN JR